



**United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**



**Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks  
40001 State Road 9336  
Homestead, Florida 33034**

In Reply Refer to:  
L7615-(FY02-010)

March 7, 2003

Dear Friends of Dry Tortugas National Park:

The National Park Service (NPS) has begun planning to accelerate the stabilization of historic Fort Jefferson located within Dry Tortugas National Park. The goal of this project is to intensively stabilize and preserve the fort, which has deteriorated in the harsh marine environment, in an environmentally sound manner. The NPS will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act by preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for this project. A brochure describing this project is enclosed for your information.

We would like to invite your participation in helping to develop the best project possible. We would appreciate your careful review of the brochure and ask that you provide us with comments by April 7, 2003. Respond by email to [Elsa\\_Alvear@nps.gov](mailto:Elsa_Alvear@nps.gov), or use the comment form included in the brochure.

In addition, a public scoping workshop will be held on March 20, 2003:

Monroe County Public Library  
700 Fleming Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend at any time during the informal workshop. The format will include a display on the project, with park staff available to answer questions and take comments. No presentations are planned. The purpose of the workshop is to identify issues and concerns in order to define the scope of analysis for the environmental assessment.

As soon as the draft environmental assessment is complete, the document will be released to the public to review for a period of 30 days, during which time another public workshop will be scheduled. We will also post it on our website at <http://www.nps.gov/drto/planning>. Written comments on the draft EA will be accepted during the 30-day review period.

We look forward to your participation in the planning process. Should you have any questions about the project or the workshop, please contact Elsa Alvear, Environmental Protection Specialist, by calling 305-242-7703, or by email at [Elsa\\_Alvear@nps.gov](mailto:Elsa_Alvear@nps.gov).

Thank you for your time and interest in this important project.

Sincerely,

Maureen Finnerty  
Superintendent

Enclosure